



TESTIMONY ON HB6998
BY JEFFREY A. RAWSON, PRESIDENT
STRATEGIC COMMERCIAL REALTY, INC. D/B/A RAWSON MATERIALS
LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING, 300 CAPITOL AVE., HARTFORD, CT
MARCH 16, 2015, 1:00 P.M.

Strategic Commercial Realty, Inc. d/b/a Rawson Materials made application to the State of Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection in May 2014. Rawson Materials, through its application, sought approval of a license to construct, at its own cost, an approximately 2,500 foot long, gravel haul road over land owned by the State of Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection in the towns of Canterbury and Brooklyn for the express purpose of hauling earthen materials while concurrently eliminating truck traffic from local town roads - Maynard and Wauregan Roads.

At a meeting between Rawson Materials and the DEEP held on February 4, 2015 Rawson learned from DEEP officials that the Department may not have the statutory authority to grant said license. As such, and acting in conjunction with its local legislators, Rawson filed a Land Conveyance Request, resulting in the inclusion of language germane to Rawson's request in HB6998

Acting in the best interests of the State of Connecticut, taxpaying citizens of the towns of Canterbury and Brooklyn who are directly impacted, and the applicant, Rawson Materials, I hereby respectfully request your vote in favor of HB6998. Your vote in favor of this bill would result in a win-win-win:

1. The State will obtain three (3) environmentally valuable parcels of property from Rawson Materials, totaling approximately 42 acres at no cost to the State and it will provide an important linkage to the State's other parcels and the Quinebaug River.
2. Access to additional state property for hunters, and specifically for those who are wheelchair bound, as an easement in perpetuity will be granted over property owned by Rawson and a gravel parking lot will be constructed by Rawson.
3. Jobs will be created and secured, specifically, a minimum of six positions will continue and six new positions will be created.
4. Connecticut tax revenue will increase, as the sale of additional gravel material will result in a total revenue stream of \$45-\$90 million dollars. Any profit derived will be subject to Connecticut income tax and a large percentage of the sales will increase sales tax revenue.
5. Local annual property tax revenue of over \$35,000 will be realized.
6. Aggregate products will continue to be available to the region, resulting in affordability to both residential and commercial consumers.
7. The safety, health and welfare of the citizens of the towns of Canterbury and Brooklyn and the State of Connecticut will be improved as a result of the elimination of truck traffic from narrow local roads.

Thank you for your time and careful consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

RAWSON MATERIALS

Jeffrey A. Rawson, President